

<b>1. Case No.</b>	<b>2. Investigator's ID</b>	<b>3. Office Code</b>	<b>EPIDEMIOLOGIC INVESTIGATION REPORT</b>	
071228HEP9004	5555	591		
<b>4. Date of Accident (Y M D)</b>	<b>5. Date Investigation Initiated (Y M D)</b>			
07 12 18	08 01 15			
<b>6. Synopsis of Accident or Complaint</b>				
THE 57 YEAR OLD MALE VICTIM SUSTAINED A PARTIAL AMPUTATION OF HIS LEFT THUMB WHILE USING A TABLE SAW TO MAKE A PLUNGE CUT IN TREATED LUMBER. HE WAS TAKEN TO THE EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT, WHERE HE WAS TREATED AND RELEASED.				
<b>7. Locations (Home, School, etc.)</b>	<b>8. City</b>	<b>9. State</b>		
1	TUCSON	AZ		
<b>10. First Product</b>	<b>11. Trade/Brand Name</b>	<b>Manufacturer Address</b>		
841		UNKNOWN		
<b>Second Product</b>	<b>Trade/Brand Name</b>	<b>Manufacturer Address</b>		
<b>12. Age of Victim</b>	<b>13. Sex (1=M, 2=F, 3=Unk)</b>	<b>14. Disposition</b>	<b>15. Injury Diagnosis</b>	
57	1	1	50	
<b>16. Body Part</b>	<b>17. Respondent(s) (Mother, Friend)</b>	<b>18. Type Investigation (1=Onsite, 2 = Phone, 3 = Other)</b>	<b>19. Time Spent</b>	
92	1 VICTIM	2	.50	
<b>20. Attachments</b>	<b>21. Case Source</b>	<b>22. Reviewed By:</b>	<b>Date (Y M D)</b>	
05 QUESTIONNAIRE	03			
<b>23. Narrative (More detail may be included on separate pages)</b>				

CPSC FORM NO. 182 (Revised 10/1985)

Approved for Use Thru 1/31/2010 OMB No. 3041-0029

CPSA 6(b)(1) CLEARED for PUBLIC

NO MFERS/PRVT LBLRS OR  
PRODUCTS IDENTIFIED

EXCEPTED BY: PETITION  
RULEMAKING ADMIN. PRCDG

WITH PORTIONS REMOVED: \_\_\_\_\_

JB 6/13/11

**Do not read to respondent**

**Interviewer Instructions:**

**1. Before contacting the respondent, please review the NEISS emergency room information on the assignment cover sheet. Questions 2, 3, and 4 will require you to enter some of this information before you begin the interview.**

**2. If the victim is age 17 or younger, interview the parent of victim, or ask the parent to listen to the interview on the extension phone while you interview victim. The respondent should be the victim if (s)he is 18 or older.**

**3. The boldfaced text contains instructions to you and should not be read to the respondent!**

**Q.1 Please enter the TASK NUMBER.**

071228HEP9004

**Q.2 Please select the Product Code on record for the saw associated with this incident.**

Table or Bench saw (0841)

**Q.3 Does the NEISS record indicate injury to a finger or hand (body part codes: finger = 92, hand = 82)?**

Yes

**Q.4 INTRODUCTION:**

Hello. May I speak with \_\_\_\_\_? (Ask for victim by name or parent or guardian of victim under age 18.)

person is available

**Q.6 Hello. I'm \_\_\_\_\_. I am working with the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission. In cooperation with (hospital name), we're doing a study of saw injuries. We are interested in learning more about these incidents, so we can find ways to help prevent similar**

incidents. The information is confidential, and for statistical purposes only. Will you help us?

agreed

**Q.9 Interviewer: Indicate below who the respondent is.**

Victim/ injured person

**Q.12 Was the saw involved in the incident powered or not powered (manual)?**

Powered

**Q.14 Was the saw a handheld model?**

No

**Q.15 According to our record the saw involved was a [ANSWER TO Q. 3], is this correct?**

Yes (correct)

**Q.20 Please describe how the injury happened and what the injuries were. That is, what were you (was the operator) doing just *before*, *during*, and *after* the injury occurred? Please start with what was going on just *before* the injury occurred.**

**Interviewer: continue on paper if necessary.**

I WAS CUTTING A PIECE OF MATERIAL MAKING A PLUNGE CUT AND WITH 40 YEARS EXPERIENCE, I GUESS I WAS JUST A LITTLE OVER CONFIDENT IN MY ABILITIES. THE WOOD KICKED BACK AND IT BACKED UP JUST ENOUGH FOR A HIGH RPM SAW TO GRAB IT AND KICK IT OUT MY LEFT HAND. AT THAT TIME MY THUMB WAS HOLDING IT DOWNWARD AND WENT INTO THE SAW IN THAT DOWNWARD MOTION. IT CUT ALONG THE BONE, THE TENDON AND NERVES OF MY LEFT THUMB. THE DOCTOR TOLD ME HE CONSIDERED IT A PARTIAL AMPUTATION, I DO NOT BECAUSE I STILL HAVE MOST OF MY THUMB. I HAVE BEEN RUNNING SAWS SINCE HIGH SCHOOL. I HAVE DONE IT MANY MANY TIMES, AND I AM SKILLED AT IT. IT TERRIFIES ME TO SEE OTHER PEOPLE USE SAWS WHEN THEY DON'T HAVE THE EXPERIENCE AND THE SAWS THEY HAVE OUT THERE NOW AT THE HOME CENTERS ARE BASICALLY A PIECE OF JUNK. THE BLADE GUARDS GIVE PEOPLE A SENCE OF FALSE SECURITY, THEY THINK IF THEY USE THEM THEY CAN NOT GET HURT. THE BLADE GUARDS ARE NOT WELL DESIGNED, THEY ARE NEARLY IMPOSSIBLE TO USE AND YOU JUST PLAIN CAN'T USE THEM WHEN MAKING A PLUNGE CUT AS I WAS. I THINK THEY NEED TO IMPROVE THEM AND MAKE THEM AT LEAST USEABLE. WHEN IT HAPPENED I DIDN'T PANIC. I WAS A VIETNAM VET. A GUY ON SITE HELPING ME GOT SOME CLEAN PAPER TOWELS AND MASKING TAPE AND WE WRAPPED IT UP. THEN I GOT A LITTLE SHAKEY AND HELD MY HAND OVER MY HEAD WHILE HE TOOK ME TO THE HOSPITAL.

**INTERVIEWER READ THE FOLLOWING:** In addition to writing down exactly what you told me about how the injury happened, I need to ask you some questions that may seem like I'm asking you to repeat yourself. Please bear with me. We want to be sure we completely understand everything about how the injury happened.

**Q.21 Was the motor running at the time of the injury? (Determine if the saw had just been turned "on" or "off")**



Motor was running

Q.24 Does the blade have a safety switch such as a key lock that must be activated, in addition to a starter switch, before the saw can be turned on?

No

Q.26 Is the blade of the saw direct drive (blade mounted directly onto the motor output shaft) or indirect drive (belt or gear driven)?

\_\_\_\_\_ Direct Drive (blade mounted directly onto the motor output shaft)

Q.28 At the time of the injury, were you using the saw, repairing/maintaining the saw, or were you not using the saw?

Using the saw

Q.34 At the time of the injury, "were you" (say "was the operator" **if the victim was not the operator**) about to start cutting, at the end of a cutting operation, pausing during a cutting operation, or were you (was the operator) in the middle of a cut?

\_\_\_\_\_ Pausing during a cutting operation

Q.35 Do you know (**approximately**) how long had you (the operator) been working with the saw that day, before the injury occurred?

Yes

Q.36 Please record how long the saw was used that day, before the injury. Specify hrs and/or mins.

ONE HOUR OR TWO

Q.37 What were you (was the operator) cutting at the time of the injury?

Wooden board

**Interviewer: Say to the respondent-** "From now on, to simplify the questions, I will refer to the object being cut as 'stock'. "

Q.39 I would like to ask you about the type of cutting operation you were performing at the time of the incident.

Had you (the operator) been cutting the length of the stock (with the grain, ripping), cutting the width of the stock (against the grain, cross cutting), cutting the stock at an angle, or cutting the stock in some other way?

\_\_\_\_\_The length of the stock (with the grain, ripping)

Q.43 Was the blade vertically straight or was it tilted to the side to make a bevel cut?

Vertically straight cut

Q.44 Do you use different types of blades for different types of cutting operations?

Yes

Q.45 What type of blade was being used at the time of the injury? Was it... **(read choices)**

Combination blade

Q.47 Do you know the diameter of the saw blade?

Yes

Q.48 **Enter the diameter of the blade in inches.**

8 1/4 INCHES

Q.49 What was the condition of the blade at the time of the injury? Was it sharp, dull, had teeth missing, or something else?

Sharp

Q.51 Was a blade guard attached to the saw at the time of the injury?

No

Q.52 What was the reason?

\_\_\_\_\_Other (specify in next window)

**Q.54 Specify.**

CAN'T MAKE PLUNGE CUTS OR MANY OTHER CUTS WITH IT

**Q.60** Do you believe a blade guard could have prevented this injury?

\_\_\_\_\_No, blade guard could not have prevented

**Q.61** Could you tell me the blade position or motion, with respect to the stock, at the time of the injury? Was it... **(read choices)**

\_\_\_\_\_Inside a cut

**Q.64** How much of the stock was already cut at the time of the injury? Were you... **(read choices)**

\_\_\_\_\_Part way through? (specify in next window)

**Q.65 Specify: one-half, one-third, one-fourth way or number of inches**

ONE-HALF

**Q.66** Was the stock rectangular or some other shape?

\_\_\_\_\_Rectangular

**Q.68** Do you know the length, width, and/or thickness of the stock being cut?

\_\_\_\_\_Yes, know at least one dimension

**Q.69 Specify dimensions of stock in inches (leave blanks for unknowns and convert any fractions to decimals):**

Length in inches	20
Width in inches	3.5
Thickness in inches	1.5

**Q.70** What was the condition of the stock?  
**(select as many as apply)**



Wet  
\_\_\_\_\_Other (specify in next window)

Q.71 Specify.

PRESSURE TREATED

Q.72 Did the stock kick back or jump?

**Interviewer: Unexpected stock movement is an indication of kickback.**

Yes

Q.74 Did the injury occur due to contact with the blade?

Yes

Q.75 Was contact with the blade made above or below the cutting surface?

Don't Know

Q.76 Do you think this blade contact was caused by the stock kickback?

Yes

Q.78 Did the stock move out from under your hand causing the hand to slide/fall into the blade, or did the stock pull your hand into the blade, or did something else occur to bring your hand into the blade?

\_\_\_\_\_Stock moved out from underneath, causing hand to fall into blade

Q.81 Was your hand in front of or behind the blade when contact was made?

Behind blade

Q.83 Describe how the stock was supported. Was the stock resting on a table, on a sawhorse, or supported in some other way?

\_\_\_\_\_On a table

Q.85 Did the whole surface of the stock fit on the table (or bench) or did it extend beyond?

Extend beyond

Q.86 Was the stock or the support firmly anchored?



No

Q.90 At the time of the incident, did you (operator) adjust the plate/base shoe of the saw to a proper depth for the thickness of the stock being cut? **(base plate/base shoe is a rectangular metal piece that wraps around the lower portion of the blade and rest against the stock during a cut)**

Q.92 At the time of the incident, was the whole surface of the plate/shoe completely in contact with the stock being cut?

Q.94 Were you (the operator) standing, kneeling, crouching, leaning or in some other position at the time of the incident?

Q.130 Does the saw belong to your/the victim's household, to another household, was it rented, or something else?

\_\_\_\_\_Your/Victim's household

Q.134 Did your/victim's household get the saw new or used?

New

Q.135 Do you know about when the saw was purchased?

Yes

Q.136 **Specify when saw was purchased  
enter month and/or year.**

1993

Q.139 Do you know the brand name (manufacturer), model name/number, and/or horsepower of the saw?

Yes, if any are known

Q.140 **Enter manufacturer, leave blank if unknown.**



Q.141 Enter model #, leave blank if unknown.

Q.142 Enter horsepower, leave blank if unknown.

VERY FAST

Q.143 Had the saw been changed or modified in any way since you got it?

Yes

Q.144 How was the saw changed or modified?

I PUT A NEW SWITCH, THE OLD ONE HAD FAILED

Q.145 Who made the modification?

Victim

Q.149 Are you right-handed, left-handed, or do you use both hands interchangeably?

\_\_\_\_\_Right-handed

Q.153 Please describe the position of your (operator's) left and right hands with respect to the saw and the stock, just before the injury and right at the time of the injury.

**Interviewer: (1) Be specific about which saw parts were held or in contact with the hand. (2) Indicate how stock was fed into the saw. (3) Specify if operator was reaching. (4) Specify whether operator was holding stock firmly or loosely.**

MY RIGHT HAND WAS BEHIND THE WOOD AND PUSHING THE WOOD. MY LEFT HAND IN FRONT OF THE BLADE HOLDING THE PIECE DOWN TOWARD THE TABLE. I SHOULD HAVE BEEN USING A PUSH STICK, I WAS NOT. I WAS NOT REACHING AND I KNOW I WAS HOLDING IT FIRMLY.

Q.154 Were you wearing eyeglasses, safety goggles, gloves, or any other special clothing at the time of the injury? **(Select as many as applicable)**

Q.157 Was the operator wearing eyeglasses, safety goggles, gloves, or any other special clothing at the time of the injury? **(Select as many as applicable)**

Q.161 During the last year, what type of cutting have you (the operator) performed most frequently with the saw?

Ripping

Q.163 Do you (operator) have an owner's manual for the saw involved in the injury?

Yes

Q.164 Do you remember any warnings or safety precautions about the operations of the saw that were printed in the owner's manual?

Yes

Q.165 **Specify what the warnings say.**

USE A PUSH STICK, KEEP HANDS FROM BLADE, USE BLADE GUARD, MANY, MANY MORE

Q.166 Do you remember seeing any warnings or safety precautions about the operation of the saw that were printed on a label on the saw?

Don't know

Q.169 Will you tell me your height and/or weight?

Yes, at least one of them

Q.171 **Enter height, leave blank if unknown/refused.**

6' 3"

Q.172 **Enter weight, leave blank if unknown/refused.**

205 POUNDS



Q.173 Do you know the operator's height and/or weight?

Q.176 Was the saw already assembled before purchase or did you (operator) have to assemble it after purchase?

\_\_\_\_\_Assembled before purchase

Q.178 Were you (the operator) ill or under any medication, drugs, or alcohol at the time of the injury?

No

Q.180 In your opinion, what caused the injury incident?

I MADE A BAD DECISION. I WAS PROBABLY SLIGHTLY OVERCONFIDENT IN MY SKILLS AND ABILITY AND MADE A BAD CHOICE. I AM VERY CAREFUL AND IN 40 PLUS YEARS THIS IS THE FIRST TIME THIS HAS HAPPENED TO ME

Q.181 In your opinion, were there any environmental factors such as slippery floor/debris on the floor, debris on the work surface, poor lighting, extreme temperature, or loose clothing that may have contributed to the injury incident?

NO

Q.182 If I have missed anything or we need additional information, may I call you back?

Yes, ok to call back

Q.183 When is a good time to reach you?

VARIES, MORNINGS BETTER

**End interview by saying:**

Thank you very much for your time. Your answers to these questions will be used in our efforts to prevent other such injuries.

Q.184 Interviewer: Enter today's date (month/day/year).

01/24/2008